

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3333

S E C R E T OTTAWA 1269

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CA

SUBJECT: TALK WITH EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER SHARP,
APRIL 26: WINNIPEG BALLET

1. THIS IS PART TWO OF A THREE-PART SERIES.

2. IN TOUR D'HORIZON WITH EXTAFF MINISTER SHARP APRIL 26, AMBASSADOR PORTER DISCUSSED THE WINNIPEG BALLET'S PROPOSED TRIP TO CUBA AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN QUOTE: SHARP MENTIONED THE PROBLEM WHICH WAS ARISING IN CONNECTION WITH THE US CITIZENS WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE WINNIPEG BALLET. THE BALLET GROUP IS SUPPOSED TO GO TO CUBA, HE SAID, AND HE HOPED THERE WOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY ABOUT PERMITTING THE US CITIZENS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GROUP'S ACTIVITIES THERE. I SAID THAT US CITIZENS IN THE GROUP HAD ALREADY BEEN INFORMED THAT WE COULD NOT VALIDATE THEIR PASSPORTS FOR TRAVEL TO CUBA. SHARP SAID HE REGRETTED TO HEAR THIS, BECAUSE THERE WOULD BE A COMMOTION ABOUT IT IN CANADA.

MACLELLAND (USA DIVISION, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS) SAID THAT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT UNDERSTANDS THE NEED TO AVOID HAVING THE CUBANS STAMP US PASSPORTS AND WISHES TO PRESENT A LIST OF NAMES, WITHOUT DESIGNATION OF NATIONALITY, TO THE CUBANS WHO WOULD AGREE TO ISSUE GENERAL AUTHORITY FOR SUCH PERSONS TO ENTER. NO NAMES OF US CITIZENS WOULD BE INCLUDED AGAINST THEIR

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WISH. IF CUBAN REACTION IS NEGATIVE, MACLELLAN SAID, IT WOULD

BE CLEAR THAT THEY WISHED TO HARRASS AMERICANS, AND GOC WOULD
THEN WASH ITS HANDS OF THE MATTER. MACLELLAN SAID THAT
SOMEWHAT SIMILAR ACTION WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN IN MEXICO
WHERE THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT PERMIT TRAVEL OF US CITIZENS
TO CUBA WITHOUT US GOVERNMENT CONSENT.

I SAID I WOULD PASS THESE COMMENTS TO WASHINGTON. END
QUOTE.
JOHNSON

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NNN

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